

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended.

No new matter is added.

I. Personal Interview

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner T. Nguyen during the interview held June 21, 2005, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4 and 5 is appreciated, they being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 4 and 5, as well as the remaining pending claims are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,147,430 to Kusase et al. (Kusase). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kusase fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims. For example, Kusase fails to disclose a dynamo-electric machine's stator, comprising ... a plurality of electric conductors inserted into the slots of the stator core so as to be protruded from an end surface of the stator core in an axial direction of the stator core, ... and an electric insulating member which is arranged between an inner wall of each slot of the stator core and a peripheral surface of the corresponding electric conductor so as to surround the electric conductor along a circumferential direction and has at least two duplicate layers, respectively, placed at different positions along the circumferential direction, each duplicate

layer being configured by a plurality of overlapping portions of the electric insulating member overlapping each other at the corresponding position, as recited in amended claim 1.

Kusase discloses a plurality of insulators disposed in slots that have a smooth end portion extending from one axial end of the stator core and a stopper engaging the other axial end of the stator core (col. 1, lines 46-50).

As shown in Figs. 4, 12 and 13, the insulator 43 is column-shaped and made of a resinous sheet which is rolled to fit into a slot 35 of the stator core. The insulator 34 is inserted into the slot 35 until a lip 36 engages the end of the stator core so that both ends of the insulator can project from the stator core 32 (col. 3, lines 17-25).

In an embodiment, the insulator 34 may be substituted by an open insulator 341 having a flared lip 361 as shown in Fig. 12, or by a closed insulator 342 having a flared lip 362 as shown in Fig. 13. The single overlapping portion 342a of the closed insulator 342 is disposed remote of the opening of the slot 35 (col. 4, lines 37-47).

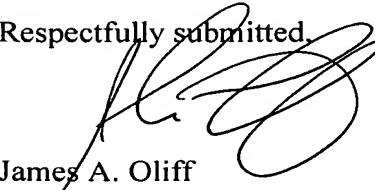
Thus, as discussed and agreed during the interview, Kusase fails to disclose an electric insulating member which has at least two duplicate layers respectively placed at different positions along the circumferential direction, each duplicate layer being configured by a plurality of overlapping portions of the electric insulating member overlapping each other at the corresponding position. As, as agreed at the interview, Kusase fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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